

TOWN OF HAMILTON

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Hamilton CPA Funds Hydro-Rake for Improvements to Weaver Pond

Hamilton – Control of nuisance vegetation at Weaver Pond is underway. Weaver Pond has been suffering due to invasive weeds overtaking and destroying the biological function of the pond. If no action was taken to reduce or eliminate the harmful vegetation at the pond, then this resource would have eventually been lost to the community.

An evaluation of the pond conditions showed that the use of a machine known as a “hydro-rake” would be the most effective at removing plants with large, well-defined root systems. The attachment “rakes” through the sediments collecting plants and their attached root systems. The hydro-rake works slowly, enabling most mobile aquatic organisms to move out the way. In addition, the thinning of dense vegetation can improve fisheries habitat by creating an “edge” effect, which improves feeding. The hydro-rake works from the water, thereby avoiding damage to sensitive shoreline habitat and property.

This project was a partnership between the Hamilton Conservation Commission and Hamilton Department of Public Works, and was approved for \$9,400.00 in CPA funds at the Fall of 2010 by Town Meeting.



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